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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/049,947	07/23/2002	Johan Vanbesien	KSN0026	2553

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EXAMINER

LEON, EDWIN A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 08/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/049,947

Applicant(s)

VANBESIEN, JOHAN

Examiner

Edwin A. León

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 2/19/02 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4,6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figure 5 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

(a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.

(b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.

(c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.

(d) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC (See 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5) and MPEP 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text are permitted to be submitted on compact discs.) or

REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX" (See MPEP § 608.05(a).

"Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.)

(e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.

(1) Field of the Invention.

(2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

(f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

(g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).

(h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.

(i) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).

(j) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).

(k) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A

"Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if

the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

4. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by van Zanten (U.S. Patent No. 6,171,149). With regard to Claim 1, van Zanten discloses an electrical connector (100) for mounting on a printed circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67), comprising a multiplicity of electrical terminal members (103) to be connected to the circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67) and being in the form of a matrix including a plurality of rows and columns each, wherein several terminal member groups (101), each comprising several terminal members (103) in the form of SMT contacts to be soldered to the circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67), are fixed in a predetermined relative position independently of each other by plastic bodies (105) of their own that are injection-molded thereto, several plastic bodies (105) along with the terminal member groups (101) extending through the same are adapted to be fixed in predetermined

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relative positions, and the plastic bodies (105) fixed in a predetermined relative position, along with the terminal member groups (101) extending through the same, are movable perpendicularly to the circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67) surface independently of each other. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 2, van Zanten discloses the plastic bodies (105) along with the terminal members (103) extending through the same being movable relative to specific or all remaining constituent parts of the connector (100). See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 3, van Zanten discloses the terminal members (103) of the terminal member groups (101) each being such terminal members (103) that are manufactured in common. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 4, van Zanten discloses the terminal members (103) of the terminal member groups (101) each being such terminal members (103) that can be connected to the circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67) at mutually adjacent locations. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 5, van Zanten discloses the several plastic bodies (105) along with the terminal member groups (101) extending through the same are movable relative to each other. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

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With regard to Claim 6, van Zanten discloses the terminal members (103) extending through the respective plastic bodies (105) are the sole constituent parts each of the connector (100) to which the plastic bodies (105) are connected. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 7, van Zanten discloses the plastic bodies (105) including alignment members (141) molded within the plastic body (105). See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 8, van Zanten discloses the connector (100) including an outer housing (200) having a plurality of spaced apart walls (rear part of 200) arranged in columns, the plastic bodies (105) and the spaced apart walls (rear part of 200) having cooperating alignment members (upper and lower protrusion in the back of 200). See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 9, van Zanten discloses the alignment members (upper and lower protrusion in the back of 200) comprising cooperating grooves and ribs (Column 4, Lines 49-55). See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 10, van Zanten discloses the cooperating grooves and ribs (Column 4, Lines 49-55) being vertically extending. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 11, van Zanten discloses an electrical connector (100) for mounting on a printed circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67), comprising a plurality of

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electrical terminal members (103) profiled for connection to the circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67) and being in the form of a matrix including a plurality of rows and columns, wherein several terminal member groups (101), each comprising several terminal members (103) in the form of contacts to be soldered to the circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67), are fixed in a predetermined relative position independently of each other by molded plastic bodies (105), several molded plastic bodies (105) along with the terminal member groups (101) extending through the same are adapted to be fixed in predetermined relative positions, and the molded plastic bodies (105), along with the terminal member groups (101) extending through the same, are movable perpendicularly to the circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67) surface independently of each other. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 12, van Zanten discloses the plastic body (105) along with the terminal members (103) extending through the same being movable relative to specific or all remaining constituent parts of the connector (100). See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 13, van Zanten discloses the terminal members (103) of the terminal member groups (101) each being such terminal members (103) that are manufactured in common. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 14, van Zanten discloses the terminal members (103) of the terminal member groups (101) each are such terminal members (103) that can be

connected to the circuit board (Column 3, Lines 12-67) at mutually adjacent locations. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 15, van Zanten discloses the several plastic bodies (105) along with the terminal member groups (101) extending through the same are movable relative to each other. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 16, van Zanten discloses the terminal members (103) extending through the respective plastic bodies (105) are the sole constituent parts each of the connector (100) to which the plastic bodies (105) are connected. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 17, van Zanten discloses the plastic bodies (105) including alignment members (141) molded within the plastic body (105). See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 18, van Zanten discloses the connector (100) includes an outer housing (200) having a plurality of spaced apart walls (rear part of 200) arranged in columns, the plastic bodies (105) and the spaced apart walls (rear part of 200) having cooperating alignment members (upper and lower protrusion in the back of 200). See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 19, van Zanten discloses the alignment members (upper and lower protrusion in the back of 200) comprising cooperating grooves and ribs

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(Column 4, Lines 49-55). See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

With regard to Claim 20, van Zanten discloses the cooperating grooves and ribs (Column 4, Lines 49-55) are vertically extending. See Figs. 1-9 and 16a, Column 3, Lines 12-67, Column 4, Lines 1-3 and Column 5, Lines 41-55.

Conclusion

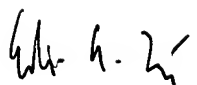
5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Champion et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,511,353), Weyer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,612,602), Burroughs et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,840,568), and Bradley et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,179,663) disclose electrical connectors having electrical terminal members, plastic bodies and circuit boards.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (703) 308-6253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00-5:30.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


Edwin A. Leon
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August 18, 2003


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